



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 25, 1999

S. 698

A bill to review the suitability and feasibility of recovering costs of high altitude rescues at Denali National Park and Preserve in the state of Alaska, and for other purposes

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on
May 19, 1999*

S. 698 would direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of recovering the costs of rescues on Mt. McKinley in Alaska. The bill would further require the Secretary to report on the suitability of requiring climbers to provide proof of medical insurance before they receive a climbing permit from the National Park Service. Finally, the Secretary would have to review the existing fee structure for such permits and recommend changes.

Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that the federal government would spend about \$250,000 over the next fiscal year to implement S. 698. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 698 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. The estimate was approved by Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.